We Claim:

5

10

15

20

1. A separation matrix for purifying His-tag proteins that contains a porous support on which a chelating group is bound according to the general formula I below:

where R1 is a branched or unbranched alkyl group containing 1 to 20 carbon atoms, an aralkyl group containing 1 to 20 carbon atoms, an aryl group containing 1 to 20 carbon atoms, or a heteroaryl group containing 1 to 20 carbon atoms as well as at least one of the elements N, S, O, P;

R2, R3, and R4 are identical or different and represent hydrogen, branched or unbranched alkyl groups containing 1 to 20 carbon atoms, aralkyl groups containing 1 to 20 carbon atoms, and/or aryl groups containing 6 to 18 ring atoms; and the support has an average pore width larger than 10⁻⁷ m (1000 Å).

2. The separation matrix as defined in Claim 1, wherein the support material has an average pore size greater than 1.2×10^{-7} m (1200 Å).

- 3. The separation matrix as defined in Claim 1, wherein the support material has an average pore size of 1.2×10^{-7} m (1200 Å) to 2×10^{-7} m (2000 Å).
- 4. A separation matrix for purifying His-tag proteins that contains a porous support on which a chelating group is bound according to the general formula II below:

$$\begin{array}{c} R3 \\ \text{CHCOOH} \\ \text{Support} - R1 - \text{NCH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{N} < \begin{array}{c} \text{CHCOOH} \\ \text{CHCOOH} \\ \text{CHCOOH} \\ \text{R4} \\ \text{R2} \end{array}$$

10

5

where R1 is a branched or unbranched alkyl group containing 1 to 20 carbon atoms, an aralkyl group containing 1 to 20 carbon atoms, an aryl group containing 1 to 20 carbon atoms, or a heteroaryl group containing 1 to 20 carbon atoms as well as at least one of the elements N, S, O, P; and

15

R2, R3, and R4 are identical or different and represent hydrogen, branched or unbranched alkyl groups containing 1 to 20 carbon atoms, aralkyl groups containing 1 to 20 carbon atoms, and/or aryl groups containing 6 to 18 ring atoms, with the stipulation that no more than two of the groups R2, R3, and R4 are present as hydrogen.

- 5. The separation matrix as defined in claim 1, wherein R2, R3, and R4 are the same substituent in each case.
- 6. The separation matrix as defined in claim 1, wherein R2, R3, and R4 are present as a methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, i-propyl, n-butyl, isobutyl, octyl, or octadecyl group.
 - 7. The separation matrix as defined in claim 1, wherein the support is an inorganic matrix.
- 8. The separation matrix as defined in claim 1, wherein the support is present in the form of silica, in particular silica gel.
 - 9. A column that contains a separation matrix according to Claim 1.

15

30

- 10. Use of the separation matrix as defined in Claim 1, for purifying His-tag proteins.
- 11. The separation matrix as defined in claim 4, wherein R2, R3, and R4 are the same substituent in each case.
- The separation matrix as defined in claim 4, wherein R2, R3, and R4 are present as a methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, i-propyl, n-butyl, isobutyl, octyl, or octadecyl group.
 - 13. The separation matrix as defined in claim 4, wherein the support is an inorganic material.
- 14. The separation matrix as defined in claim 4, wherein the support is present in the form of silica material, in particular silica gel.
 - 15. A column that contains a separation matrix according to Claim 4.
- 16. Use of the separation matrix as defined in Claim 4, for purifying His-tag proteins.